

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PCH-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-14 USIA-12 IO-12 RSR-01 /122 W
----- 034591

R 271700 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1278

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 138

DEPT PLS POUCH CURACAO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, MARR, NS

SUBJECT: REALM COMMISSION: DEFENSE NOTE

REF: THE HAGUE'S 1180

1. WE NOTED WITH INTEREST THE DUTCH PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SURINAM AND THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, AS REPORTED

IN REFTEL. THE PROPOSAL REPRESENTS, AT LEAST FOR SURINAM, A WELCOME SHIFT IN DUTCH POLICY FROM A PREVIOUS POSITION OF DEPENDANCE ON " SURINAMIZATION" OF THE DUTCH REINFORCED BATTALION TO ONE OF ENCOURAGING RELIANCE ON POLICE AND PARAMILITARY UNITS, AND ON INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES. WE BELIEVE THIS LATTER TAKES INTO MORE REALISTIC ACCOUNT SURINAM'S DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS AS WELL AS HER AVAILABLE RESOURCES. THE PROPOSAL FOLLOWS VERY CLOSELY THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS PUT FORTH BY THE COUNTRY TEAM IN LAST YEAR'S CASP (PARAMARIBO'S A-9, FEBRUARY 16, 1972) AND PARAMARIBO'S TEL 050, 16 MAGCH 1972.

2. WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE TO WHAT EXTENT THE DEFENSE NOTE PROPOSAL WAS DISCUSSED AT MEETING OF REALM COMMISSION IN CURACAO. PRESS COVERAGE OF MEETING IN GENERAL AND THIS POINT IN PARTICULAR HAS BEEN SPARSE. ALSO, SURINAM REPRESENTATION ON THE DEFENSE SUB- COMMITTEE OF REALM
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COMMISSION WAS EXCEPTIONALLY LIGHTWEIGHT. (OVERALL SURINAM
PRESENCE AT REALM COMMISSION MEETING WAS LIGHT DUE TO ABSENCE
DURING PART OR ALLMENT
AND, EXCEPT FOR U. K. IMPORTS FROM COMMONWEALTH, MAJOR NET
EXPORTER, COMMUNITY WILL LIKELY BE UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE
FROM LDC' S AT UN SUGAR CONFERENCE BEGINNING IN MAY. WOULD

APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION MISSION CAN DEVELOP, AS
CONFERENCE APPROACHES, ON POSITION COMMUNITY WILL TAKE.
DECONTROL 2/1/74. ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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